

University of South Alabama Clicker (Personal Response System) Policy

Approved: 5/07

Revised: 10/12

Personal response systems or “clickers” are an effective means to increase classroom interaction and student engagement. Standardizing to one clicker system across campus provides benefits of decreased student costs and ease of support. The currently approved clicker system, Interwrite PRS, is no longer supported by its parent company; therefore, adopting a new personal response system is necessary.

A subcommittee of the University Committee on Electronic Learning (UCEL) and a number of faculty who use clickers have conducted an analysis of six major brands and technologies and have piloted the use of two systems. Subsequently, the full committee recommended changing the University’s campus-wide clicker adoption from Interwrite PRS to the i>clicker™ system.

Given below are recommendations for the revised policy:

1. i>clicker™ has been selected for campus-wide adoption beginning in Spring Semester 2013. Faculty who require the use of clickers in their classes are urged to transition to the approved “clicker” as quickly as possible. The approved “clicker” description can be found at <http://www.iclicker.com>.
2. Faculty who use clickers in their courses will receive an i>clicker 2™, instructor remote, and receiver free of charge.
3. Students who register for a course where the i>clicker™ is required can purchase either an i>clicker 2™ device or a subscription to i>clicker’s virtual service, web>clicker™. The web>clicker™ service allows students to install an app that converts their “smart” device (Apple iOS, Android, Palm, Blackberry, Windows Phone, etc.) into a “clicker” that is compatible with the i>clicker™ system. web>clicker™ subscriptions are available by the semester, year, or multiple years.
4. Students who purchase either an i>clicker 2™ device or web>clicker™ subscription will be able use it in subsequent courses where it is required (provided their subscription has not expired). Students do not need to purchase either i>clicker™ product until they register for a course requiring it.
5. Students who already own either a web>clicker™ subscription or an i>clicker 2™ will not be required to purchase the other unless there is an extenuating circumstance approved by the College dean.
6. UCEL will periodically review the “clicker” brand endorsed for campus-wide adoption. The committee will determine if the available technology has changed to such an extent that the university should reinitiate the evaluation process.
7. Exceptions to this policy should be approved by the Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs.